



Docket No. 2598-4004US1

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Arthur J. BLUME et al.  
Serial No. : 09/852,455 Group Art Unit: 1632  
Filed : May 9, 2001 Examiner: TBA  
For : METHODS OF IDENTIFYING THE ACTIVITY OF GENE PRODUCTS

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment prior to consideration of the application on the merits.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the following paragraph beginning at page 9, line 34 and ending at page 10, line 11, to read as follows:

Present databases and computers allow rapid searches for partners based on surrogate sequences. Examples of available computer based programs to analyse sequences include BLAST, Patternfind, ExPASy, MEME (Multiple EM for Motif Elicitation), (<http://meme.sdsc.edu/meme/website/intro.html>), MAST (Motif Alignment and Search Tool, <http://meme.sdsc.edu/mem/website/mast-intro.html>). ([www.expasy.ch/](http://www.expasy.ch/)) and ISREC